

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for conjoining the severed ends of a tendon or ligament comprising:

a. a first elongate cord having a proximal end and a distal end, said distal end of said cord being operative to be axially implanted within a respective one of said ends of said severed tendon or ligament, said cord having at least one anchor mechanism formed thereon for retaining said cord axially within said severed tendon or ligament;

b. a second elongate cord having a proximal end and a distal end, said distal end of said cord being operative to be axially implanted within the respective other of said ends of said severed tendon or ligament, said cord having at least one anchor mechanism formed thereon for retaining said cord axially within said severed tendon or ligament; and

c. a fastener mechanism for coupling said first and second cords to one another once said cords are implanted and anchored within said severed ends of said tendon or ligament such that said severed ends of said tendon or ligament are operatively retained in abutment with one another.

2. The system of Claim 1 wherein said fastener mechanism comprises a first fastener member formed upon said proximal end of said first cord and a second fastener member formed upon said proximal end of said second cord, said first and second fastener members being interconnectable with one another and operative to conjoin said first and second cords.

3. The system of Claim 1 wherein said cord comprises a suture.

4. The system of Claim 1 wherein said first and second cords are formed from a biocompatible material.

5. The system of Claim 1 wherein said at least one anchor mechanism formed upon said first and second cords comprise a plurality of anchor mechanisms.

6. The system of Claim 5 wherein said plurality of said anchor mechanisms are formed along the length of said first and second cords.

7. The system of Claim 6 wherein said anchor mechanisms comprise a plurality of V-shaped prongs formed along the length of said first and second cords.

8. A method for conjoining the severed ends of a severed tendon comprising the steps:

a. providing a first elongate cord having a proximal end and a distal end, said cord being operative to be axially implanted within a respective one of said ends of said severed tendon or ligament, said cord having at least one anchor mechanism formed thereon for retaining said cord axially within said severed tendon or ligament;

b. providing a second elongate cord having a proximal end and a distal end, said distal end of said cord being operative to be axially implanted within a respective other of said ends of said severed tendon or ligament, said cord having at least one anchor mechanism formed thereon for retaining said cord axially within said severed tendon or ligament; and

c. axially positioning said distal end of said first cord provided in step (a) into a respective one of said severed ends of said tendon such that said anchor mechanism remains implanted therein;

d. positioning said distal end of said second cord provided in step (b) into a respective other of said severed ends of said tendon such that said anchor mechanism remains implanted therein; and

e. securing said first and said second cords to one another such that said severed ends of said tendon are operatively retained in abutment with one another.

9. That method of Claim 8 wherein in step (e), said first and second cords are fastened to one another via a fastener.

10. The method of Claim 9 wherein said fastener comprises a first fastener member formed upon said proximal end of said first cord and a second fastener member formed upon said proximal end of said second cord, said first and second fastener members being interconnectable with one another.